

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-16 AID-20 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 SSO-00

DRC-01 /177 W

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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 702

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 3259

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SW, CI

SUBJECT: SWEDISH REACTION TO CHILEAN SITUATION

SUMMARY: SWEDISH GOVT. AND MEDIA HAVE DEPLORED CHILEAN
COUP IN STRONG LANGUAGE AND ANNOUNCED SUSPENSION OF AID
TO CHILE. END SUMMARY.

1. SWEDISH GOVERNMENT REACTED STRONGLY TO CHILEAN COUP
WITH STATEMENTS BY PRIMIN PALME, FORNMIN WICKMAN AND
OTHERS DEPLORING COUP. GOS ALSO ANNOUNCED SEPT. 12 IT
WAS SUSPENDING FOREIGN AID TO CHILE BECAUSE THE AID
WAS CONTINGENT UPON ALLENDE'S PROGRAM FOR SOCIAL PROGRESS.
HEAVY MEDIA COVERAGE UNIFORMLY DEPLORES COUP.

2. PALME'S STATEMENT STARTS: "IT IS WITH CONSTERNATION
AND INDIGNATION WE HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS THAT RIGHT-WING
ELEMENTS HAVE TAKEN POWER IN CHILE BY FORCE OF ARMS.
DR. ALLENDE'S PEACEFUL SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION HAS BEEN
OVERTHROWN BY MILITARY FORCE... EVEN BEFORE HE BECAME
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PRESIDENT CONSPIRATORS TRIED TO OVERTHROW HIM. FOR

THREE YEARS HIS ENEMIES AT HOME AND ABROAD HAVE BEEN TRYING TO CRUSH HIS REGIME... THE CONCLUSION WE CAN DRAW FROM THIS POINTS TOWARDS A TIME OF UNREST AND UPHEAVAL... WE ARE GRAVELY ALARMED AT THE POSSIBILITY OF RIGHT-WING FORCES STARTING A MASS-ACTION AGAINST ALL PROGRESSIVE FORCES IN CHILE... A VIGILANT, INTERNATIONAL OPINION MUST NOW FOLLOW WHAT IS HAPPENING AND VIGOROUSLY REACT AGAINST THIS OUTRAGE PERPETRATED BY RIGHT-WING FORCES." (FULL STATEMENT BEING POUCHED.)

3. WICKMAN ADDED: "IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD THIS HAS AROUSED GRIEF AND ANGER. SWEDEN IS NO EXCEPTION, AS WE HAVE TRIED BY MEANS OF INCREASING DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT SOCIAL RECONSTRUCTION IN CHILE. SWEDISH SOCIAL DEMOCRACY HAS CONSISTENTLY UPHELD THE PRINCIPLE OF THE RIGHT OF SMALL STATES TO SHAPE THEIR OWN FUTURE WITHOUT INTERFERENCE FROM OUTSIDE. THAT RIGHT HAS BEEN DENIED CHILE." NOTE: CHILE WAS ONE OF SIGNIFICANT RECEIPIENTS OF SWEDISH AID, WHICH WAS RECENTLY INCREASED TO \$9.5 MILLION THIS YEAR (SEE STOCKHOLM 3145).

4. PALME ALSO TALKED ABOUT CHILE DURING AN ELECTION SPEECH AT OREBRO SEPT. 12 AND, AS REPORTED BY NEWSPAPER SVENSKA DAGBLADET, SAID: "I HAVE VISITED CHILE MYSELF AND SEEN THE POVERTY AND DESPAIR OF THE PEOPLE. I UNDERSTAND THEIR EXPECTATIONS. ITT AND CIA WERE THERE. THEY DID NOT SUCCEED. FINALLY THEY RESORTED TO OPEN VIOLENCE. THOSE WHO HAD THE ECONOMIC POWER COULD NOT ACCEPT THE TRANSFORMATION THAT CHILE FACED. WHEN A PEOPLE DEMANDS ITS RIGHTS, THEN THE MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS EXTEND THEIR FINGERS, THEN THE BIG POWERS STAND READY WITH THEIR TANK BRIGADES OR B-52'S. THIS CONCERNS US, WE FEEL SOLIDARITY WITH THE OPPRESSED AND WHEN A POOR COUNTRY IS DEVASTATED." NOTE: ABOVE REFERENCE TO ITT AND CIA ONLY FROM ONE NEWSPAPER AND WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE CONFIRM IT FROM OTHER SOURCES. OTHER NEWSPAPERS OTHERWISE CARRIED SIMILAR ACCOUNTS OF PALME OREBRO REMARKS.
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